

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 USUN N 01881 010614Z

53

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 DHA-02 /121 W

----- 128410

R 302245Z APR 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7241

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

UNCLAS USUN 1881

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UN SF WA

SUBJ: WALVIS BAY AND NAMIBIA: VORSTER STATEMENT

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF EXTRACT OF VORSTER STATEMENT OF APRIL
23 IN SOUTH AFRICAN HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY CIRCULATED AS SC
DOCUMENT APRIL 29 AT REQUEST OF SOUTH AFRICAN PERM REP:

THE IDEA IS MILLING AROUND VERY PERSISTENTLY IN MY
MIND THAT, SINCE WE TRANSFERRED THE ADMINISTRATION OF
WALVIS BAY TO SOUTH WEST AFRICA IN 1922,
WE SHOULD GIVE VERY SERIOUS CONSIDERATION IN RECESS TO
WHETHER WE SHOULD NOT REPEAL THAT ACT. I
AM SAYING THIS FOR SIMPLE REASON THAT THERE ARE
PEOPLE IN SWA, AND IN OUTSIDE WORLD IN PARTICULAR, WHO
ADOPT STANDPOINT THAT WALVIS BAY BELONGS TO SWA. I DO
NOT WANT THERE TO BE ANY MISUNDERSTANDING WHATSOEVER ABOUT
THIS. WALVIS BAY BELONGS TO SA. AT THIS MOMENT
I AM SAYING NO MORE THAN THAT THIS IS SIMPLY AN IDEA I
HAVE. HOWEVER, IT IS AN IDEA TO WHICH I SHALL GIVE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USUN N 01881 010614Z

VERY SERIOUS THOUGHT DURING RECESS.

FOR REST MY STANDPOINT IS STILL THAT CONF. IS A MATTER FOR PEOPLE OF SWA. MY HONOURABLE FRIEND ASKED ME, HOWEVER, WHY I CANNOT ACT IN SA AS I AM ACTING IN SWA. SURELY ONE CANNOT PLACE THESE TWO ON AN EQUAL FOOTING WITH EACH OTHER. LET US CONSIDER ONLY A FEW OF FACETS OF SITUATION NOW. SWA HAS A PARTICULAR INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER. WHATEVER OUR STANDPOINT ON MANDATE MAY BE, AND HOWEVER WE MAY DIFFER IN REGARD TO IT, FACT REMAINS THAT SWA HAS A PARTICULAR INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER AND THAT ONE MAY NOT IGNORE THIS. TIMES WITHOUT NUMBER I HAVE HAD TO LISTEN TO REPROACH THAT IT IS FAULT OF GOVT THAT VARIOUS PEOPLES ARE LIVING IN VARIOUS PLACES IN SWA, ALTHOUGH THOSE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN LIVING THERE SINCE BEFORE GERMAN OCCUPATION. MY COLLEAGUES CAN CONFIRM THAT REPROACH HAS ALSO BEEN LEVELLED AT US THAT WE ARE DELIBERATELY KEEPING PEOPLE OF SWA SEPARATE AND ARE NOT AFFORDING THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH ONE ANOTHER. I SAID TO DR. ESCHER: VERY WELL, IF THAT IS REPROACH-SOMETHING WHICH IS NOT TRUE-I SHALL GO OUT OF MY WAY TO BRING LEADERS OF SWA TOGETHER, FOR IT IS MY POLICY THAT THEY SHOULD WORK OUT THEIR OWN FUTURE. THERE IS ONE THING I WANT TO MAKE VERY CLEAR HERE TODAY. IF THOSE LEADERS HAVE WORKED OUT AFUTURE FOR THEMSELVES, EVEN IF I DO NOT LIKE THE WAY IN WHICH THEY HAVE DONE SO, I SHALL ACCEPT IT, FOR IT IS THEIR LAND AND THEIR FUTURE. SA DOES NOT WANT THAT TERRITORY FOR ITSELF. SA MAKES NO CLAIM TO IT. I SAID YEARS AGO AT KEETMANSHOOP THAT FUTURE OF SWA WOULD NOT BE WORKED OUT IN PRETORIA OR IN GLASS PALACE OF UN, BUT THAT IT WOULD, AS FAR AS THE WHITES WERE CONCERNED, BE WORKED OUT IN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SWA. I WAS ATTACKED ON THAT STANDPOINT, BUT IT IS CORRECT STANDPOINT TO ADOPT. I CAN INFORM THIS HOUSE TODAY THAT I HAVE NOT INTERFERED IN COMPOSITION, AGENDA OR DISCUSSIONS, OF CONF. NOT IN ANY WAY-DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY.

IF I HAD DONE SO, I WOULD HAVE VIOLATED PRINCIPLE THAT PEOPLE OF SWA MUST WORK OUT THEIR OWN FUTURE. I CANNOT STATE IT AS MY STANDPOINT THAT SWA MUST WORK OUT ITS OWN FUTURE ALONE AND THAT I SHALL NOT ALLOW UN TO INTERFERE, IF I

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 USUN N 01881 010614Z

INTERFERE IN THAT REGARD MYSELF. UNTIL PEOPLES OF SWA TELL ME THAT THEY HAVE WORKED OUT THEIR FUTURE, HOWEVER, SA REGARDS ITSELF AS BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR LAW AND ORDER AND SECURITY OF PEOPLE OF SWA. THEREFORE SA WILL NOT HESITATE TO TAKE ACTION OR EVEN TO MAKE LAWS TO PROTECT PUBLIC PEACE IN SWA. THERE MUST BE NO DOUBT WHATSOEVER ABOUT THIS. FOR SAKE OF RECORD I WANT TO REITERATE THAT SA IS NOT THERE AS AN OCCUPYING POWER. SA IS THERE AS AN

ADMINISTRATIVE POWER, UNTIL SUCH TIME AS PEOPLES THERE
DECIDE THEIR OWN FUTURE. AS SOON AS PEOPLES OF SWA
TELL ME THAT THEY NO LONGER WANT US THERE, SA WILL PACK ITS
BAGS AND LEAVE. BUT UNTIL THAT TIME ARRIVES, SA HAS A TASK
AND A DUTY TO FULFIL, WHATEVER THE UN MAY DECIDE.

I COME NOW TO COMPOSITION OF CONFERENCE. THEY THEMSELVES
DECIDED ON A CERTAIN MODUS OPERANDI. THAT MODUS OPERANDI
IS THEIRS. IF THEY WANT TO BRING IN OTHER PEOPLE-
WHETHER I LIKE IT OR WHETHER I DO NOT LIKE IT--IT IS THEIR
BUSINESS. I AM NOT GOING TO INTERFERE WITH THAT. I WANT
TO STATE MY STANDPOINT IN THAT REGARD SO THAT THERE NEED BE
NO MISUNDERSTANDING WHATSOEVER ABOUT IT. BECAUSE I BELIEVE
THAT PEOPLES OF SWA ARE AWARE OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY,
I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THEY WILL TAKE ANY FOOLISH DECISIONS
FOR SWA. THEY WILL HAVE TO REALIZE THAT SERVICES WHICH SA
IS RENDERING THERE ARE SERVICES WHICH THEY THEMSELVES
WOULD OTHERWISE HAVE TO RENDER. I BELIEVE THAT THEY WILL
GO ABOUT THEIR TASK IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY WILL
NOT HARM FUTURE POSSIBILITIES OF SWA. IT IS A TERRITORY WITH
INFINITE POSSIBILITIES, PARTICULARLY IF ONE IS ABLE TO PROVIDE
TERRITORY WITH WATER. THIS WILL, HOWEVER, COST AN ENORMOUS
AMOUNT OF MONEY. CONSEQUENTLY I, PERSONALLY, BELIEVE IN
FUTURE OF SWA. I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT PEOPLES OF SWA
WILL ALLOW SAME SITUATION AS ONE WHICH AROSE IN
ANGOLA TO ARISE IN THAT TERRITORY. I ALSO BELIEVE THAT PEOPLES
OF SWA ARE ALIVE TO NEED TO ENSURE THAT CHAOS AND ANARCHY
DO NOT ARISE IN SWA.

BENNETT

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRITORIAL REVERSION, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, WALVIS BAY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USUNN01881
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760167-0136
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976041/aaaaaafa.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 OCT 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 OCT 2004 by cookms>; APPROVED <01 NOV 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WALVIS BAY AND NAMIBIA: VORSTER STATEMENT FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF EXTRACT OF VORSTER STATEMENT OF APRIL
TAGS: PFOR, SF, WA, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006